

SUN #60

Nov. 1999

Copyright 1999

Mechanical Flaw In Typewriter Used To Prepare One Of Tim Cooper's "New MJ-12 Documents" Matches Anomaly In Cooper's Typewriter

The typewriter Tim Cooper used to write personal letters in late 1991 not only has a typeface similar to that used in the "4th Annual MJ-12 Report," allegedly written in 1952, but Cooper's typewriter has an identical mechanical flaw--A SLIGHTLY_ELEVATED NUMBER "8". This indicates that BOTH (apparently) were written using the same typewriter.

In mid-August, when Dr. Robert Wood and son Ryan issued a press release which admitted that Tim Cooper had failed a polygraph ("lie detector") test taken nearly two months earlier [SUN #59/Sept. 1999], the Woods suggested a possible explanation for numerous factual discrepancies in the "new MJ-12 documents" obtained from Cooper and whose authenticity they had earlier endorsed. The Woods'press release suggested "[a] very real possibility is that some aspects of the documents are part of a [government] deceptive disinformation campaign designed for the mid-fifties or later to confuse or re-direct the Soviet or Chinese technological investments." But if Tim Cooper counterfeited even one of the documents, then ALL of them are suspect.

On Oct. 4 and Oct 7, 1991, Cooper wrote letters to Timothy Good, famous British author of several popular pro-UFO books, including "Above Top Secret" and "Beyond Top Secret." Although Good had endorsed the authenticity of the original MJ-12 papers, made public in mid-1987, he has more recently questioned their authenticity. When Good obtained a copy of one of Cooper's documents which purports to be the "4th Annual MJ-12 Report," Good noted a number of similarities with Cooper's 1991 letters [SUN #58/July 1999]. For example, the upper-case (capital) "G" and "N," as well as "8," were slightly elevated relative to adjacent lower-case letters. The slight elevation of upper-case letters conceivably could occur if the typist failed to depress the "shift" key to its lowest possible position. However, to type a numeral does NOT require the use of the "shift" key. Thus, a slight elevation of a numeral reveals a slight mechanical flaw in a specific typewriter and thus corresponds to its "fingerprint."

"Elevated 8" in Cooper's letters AND in one of his "MJ-12 documents"

Cooper's letters of Oct. 4 and Oct. 7, 1991 (Enlarged below):

Timothy Good Mr. Timothy G 8.0, para. 8.3)

20 Morley Cou 20 Morley Cou

8th Air Force 78 The Avenue 78 The Avenue in 1948.

From Cooper's "MJ-12 Annual Report" (Somewhat enlarged.)

7 January 1948

14 Kay 1948 1947/48 erisis

In 1885

16 June 1948 13 January 1948

Long. 106-28-23 least 8,973 items No. 98, page 1.

Cooper Claims More "New MJ-12 Documents" And ET-Autopsy Photos

<u>Tim Cooper</u> claims to have recently received hundreds of new UFO documents from his secret sources, according to an Oct. 13 press release by Robert Wood and son Ryan, who have endorsed many of the first batch of "new MJ-12 documents" provided by Cooper. "Of the new material received over the summer most noteworthy are <u>additional</u> pictures of an apparent alien autopsy (and) MJ-12 personnel," according to the Woods. (Emphasis added.) The Woods had never before mentioned any <u>previous</u> photos supplied by Cooper and have not released even one of the photos. The new material, according to Cooper, has been received both "by mail and in person from several sources."

This Cooper claim should arouse the Woods' suspicions, but it doesn't. If the documents were authentic, Cooper's "sources" could logically expect that since he had been identified by the Woods as their source for the (allegedly) "Top Secret" documents, Cooper would be under continuous FBI surveillance. Surely Cooper's sources would not risk being caught in the act of giving him highly classified documents or even being seen in Cooper's vicinity.

One of the key new documents is reported to be a 334-page manuscript which had been submitted to the USAF's Project Blue Book UFO-investigation office, with several of its chapters stamped "TOP SECRET/MAJIC." According to the Ryan Wood, this document is on "original watermarked paper, produced on a typewriter identified as a 1939 Underwood Portable." [SUN Comment: How very suspicious that such a lengthy official document would be typed using a portable typewriter.] Ryan added: "We think that this exceptional find will lead to a significant validation of the Majestic program because of the handwriting on original paper, with identifiable watermark. Proper analysis of the paper and ink can provide unarguable courtroom proof, which is our primary goal."

FORENSIC LABORATORY TEST CAN DETERMINE AGE OF THE INK AND PAPER

Nearly a decade ago, forensic chemical laboratory tests exposed a bogus UFO document. The document was given to Stanton Friedman by Gerald F. Anderson, who claimed that as a small child in New Mexico in 1947 he and members of his family (now deceased) had seen a crashed flying saucer on the Plains of San Agustin. Although Roswell researcher Kevin Randle questioned Anderson's tale, Friedman found it credible--especially after Anderson passed a polygraph test. Later, when Anderson claimed to have found his uncle's handwritten diary describing the crashed-saucer incident, Friedman decided to have the vintage of the ink and paper analyzed.

The analysis was performed by Brunelle Forensic Laboratories, Fairfax, Va., which specializes in determining the age of ink and paper. In Richard Brunelle's letter of Oct. 18, 1990, he reported that while the diary's paper had been available in 1947, the fountain pen ink used in the Anderson diary was not manufactured until around 1974. Clearly the diary was bogus.

Undoubtedly there are similar forensic chemical laboratories closer to the Woods' southern California home. <u>SUN Wonders</u>: How soon will the Woods find such a laboratory to analyze the age of the ink and paper used in this key document, <u>and how soon will they make the results public</u>? (They delayed almost two months in revealing that Cooper had flunked his polygraph test, and they have not released <u>any</u> of the photos which are claimed to show an ET autopsy.)

Robert Wood has admitted, in an Internet exchange, that "some of the [Cooper] documents are not truly authentic, but blaming it on Cooper fixes (sic) nothing. Others of the documents are indeed authentic. We are sorting this out carefully, systematically, and convincingly."

RPIT Claims Roswell Debris Not From Balloon-Borne Radar Target

The Roswell Photo Interpretation Team (RPIT), a small group of researchers headed by J. Bond Johnson, claims that it has "proved conclusively" that the famous "Roswell Incident" debris photographed in the office of Brig. Gen. Roger Ramey on July 8, 1947, could not possibly have come from a balloon-borne radar target launched as part of a then "Top Secret" Project Mogul. RPIT's claim is based on computer enhancement of Ramey office photos, performed by Neil Morris, a British technician employed at the University of Manchester. Johnson, a recently retired psychologist and minister, in 1947 was the young reporter for the Ft. Worth Star-Telegram who took the debris photos in Ramey's office (SUN #57/May 1999).

Although Gen. Ramey promptly identified the debris as being from a balloon-borne radar target rather than from a "crashed flying disc" as Maj. Jesse Marcel first suspected, the connection to the then "Top Secret" Project Mogul balloon launches from Alamogorda, N.M., Army Air Field was not discovered until the carly 1990s. The Project Mogul connection was first discovered by UFO-researcher Robert Todd, later Karl Pflock, and in early 1994 by the USAF during its Roswell investigation for the General Accounting Office (GAO). Todd managed to locate Charles B. Moore, who had been the project engineer for the New York University team which had launched balloon experiments, in support of Project Mogul's objectives, from Alamogorda AAF. (Moore later became a physics professor at the New Mexico Institute of Technology in Socorro.) After Moore learned from Todd of rancher Mac Brazel's original description of the debris (during an interview on July 8, 1947) and examined the photos taken in Ramey's office, Prof. Moore concluded that the debris most probably came from a train of more than 20 weather balloons and six radar targets launched on June 4, 1947, which were tracked by radar to within 20 miles of the Brazel ranch but never recovered.

RPIT'S RECENT CLAIM CHALLENGES VIEWS OF MOST ROSWELL RESEARCHERS

Previously, essentially all Roswell researchers agreed that the crumpled metal foil and small "sticks" photographed in Ramey's office clearly were from kite-like radar targets. However, those who believe in a crashed-ET-craft coverup claim that the material in Ramey's office was NOT the Brazel ranch debris actually recovered by Marcel but was bogus debris substituted for the original. However, those who hold this view are unable to explain how or where Ramey could have so quickly obtained such debris, including the deteriorated remains of a weather balloon visible in several of the photos. Balloon-borne radar targets were not yet being used at Ramey's 8th Air Force headquarters in Ft. Worth and it is unlikely that the remains of deteriorated weather balloons would be readily available.

Several months ago, RPIT member Ron Regehr claimed that in a conversation with Moore he had admitted that the "debris photographed on the floor of Ramey's office did not appear to [him] to be from the Project Mogul balloon train [he] had launched on June 4, 1947." On July 10, SUN wrote Moore to verify Regehr's claim. Moore replied on July 14, admitting that while age had taken its toll of his memory, he had no recollection "of ever talking to Ron Regehr or of making such a statement." Moore added that the Ramey office photos "show material that resembles the radar targets that we used in June 1947....Some of the debris appears to be fragments of the neoprene balloons of the type we used..." Moore cited other data to support his views.

Despite the foregoing, Johnson claims that "RPIT members have been unable to associate any of the pieces [of debris] examined through the use of modern computer enhancement techniques with any parts expected to be found in a Mogul/Rawin crash. (Emphasis added.) The most recent dramatic research shows that what originally was reported to be thin, paper-backed foil and solid wooden sticks--such as might be found in a Mogul/Rawin train--actually appears to be thick, massive sheeting attached to carefully formed and drilled hollow beams." But not a single one of these "beams" is longer than the balsa-wood sticks used to construct the radar target.

After SUN's brief examination of Morris' computer-enhanced imagery, we informed Johnson that IF the debris was not from the New York University balloon-train, launched June 4, 1947, PERHAPS the debris came from the crash of a 1947 Studebaker convertible.

Swissair 747's "Close Encounter" With UFO

At 5:07 p.m. on Aug. 9, 1997, a Swissair 747 (Flight #127) flying at 23,000 ft. altitude over Long Island enroute to Boston had what seemed to its cockpit crew to be a near-midair collision with an unidentified object. A six-month investigation by UFO-researcher Robert J. Durant (a retired Delta Air Lines pilot) and Don Berliner, head of the Fund for UFO Research (FUFOR), prompted them to conclude that the 747 "encountered an Unidentified Flying Object." Both men believe that some UFOs are ET craft. (Their 70-page report on the incident, "Near Miss With A UFO: Swissair Flight 127," can be purchased for \$15 from the Fund for UFO Research, P.O. Box 277, Mt. Rainier, Md. 20712; also from MUFON or CUFOS.)

<u>Capt. Phil Bobet</u> had just finished briefing passengers on visible highlights of Manhattan, on the left side of the 747, when he looked ahead and very briefly spotted the "UFO" as it whizzed by. <u>First Officer Kurt Grunder</u> had been bending over to retune the radio and when he straightened up he saw the "UFO." It seemed so very close that Grunder unconsciously ducked down. The incident caused <u>no</u> turbulence in the 747's flight path.

The Swissair crew spent the night in Boston, and the following day they were interviewed by representatives of the Federal Aviation Administration, the National Transportation Safety Board and the FBI (which was then investigating the TWA #800 tragedy). Capt. Bobet described the object as being white, cylindrical and without wings. He said it resembled a "white shark." First Officer Grunder's description was slightly different: "white, round." Durant/Berliner try to explain these somewhat different descriptions as the result of the slightly different viewing angle. SUN believes the differences are of no consequence because neither Bobet or Grunder had more than 1-2 seconds to observe the object before it zoomed behind them. Neither ever referred to the object as a "UFO" or a "flying saucer" or subsequently embellished their account--as did the pilot of a Japan Air Lines 747 following a UFO incident at night over Alaska in late 1986.

COULD THE UFO HAVE BEEN A METEOR-FIREBALL?

It was not until early 1998 that <u>SUN</u> chanced to learn of the incident. Our suspicion that the "UFO" might be a meteor-fireball stemmed from a similar incident involving two airliners and a military aircraft which reportedly had a similar near-midair collision with a "squadron of UFOs" near St. Louis on June 5, 1969. Because that incident occurred in broad daylight and involved multiple flight crew witnesses it would have become a classic case but for an alert newspaper photographer in Peoria, Ill., <u>Allan Harkrader</u>, who managed to get a photo of the "UFOs." Harkrader's photo showed that the "squadron of UFOs" was a meteor-fireball and fragments that broke off to form a procession of brightly glowing teardrop-shaped objects.

Based on the photo and reports from several ground observers in Illinois and Iowa, the Smithsonian Center for Short-lived Phenomena was able to calculate the approximate flight path of the meteor-fireball. Its trajectory was roughly 125 MILES north of St. Louis--despite the impression of the flight crews that the objects came within several hundred feet of their aircraft. The objects also were seen by a private pilot at the Cedar Rapids, Ia., airport. When he reported the incident to the local Federal Aviation Administration office, the pilot said the objects flew directly over the airport's east-west runway--approximately 100 MILES north of the meteor-fireball's actual trajectory.

ONE OF THE INTRISIC CHARACTERISTICS OF METEOR-FIREBALLS IS THAT THEY ALWAYS APPEAR TO BE VERY MUCH CLOSER THAN THEY REALLY ARE.

Because the Swissair incident occurred on Aug. 9, only 2-3 days before the peak of the annual Perseids meteor shower, this prompted SUN to suspect that the UFO might have been a meteor-fireball. Seeking the pilot/copilot's reaction to this hypothesis, we sent information on the St. Louis incident with a copy of Harkrader's photo to Swissair's headquarters and asked that it be transmitted on to Bobet and Grunder, but we never heard directly from them. We also contacted the National Transportation Board investigator Robert L. Hancock, who had investigated the Swissair incident. Hancock had not considered the possibility of a meteor-fireball and showed zero interest in doing so. Hancock's preferred explanation was that the UFO might have been a 20-30 ft. long tethered balloon used to attract attention for a store or car dealer which had broken loose from its mooring, but he admitted that this was speculative. (Durant/Berliner also criticize the NTSB investigator for his indifference to the incident.)

Durant, who arranged to interview Bobet in Boston on Mar. 28, 1998, learned of my meteor-fireball hypothesis. But the Durant/Berliner report rejects this possible explanation because the direction of Perseid meteor-fireballs at the time of the Swissair incident did not match the reported NE to SW trajectory of the UFO. Also, they cite the lack of any fireball reports from ground observers. SUN's rebuttal is that a meteor-fireball need not originate from a meteor shower--as the June 5, 1969, incident demonstrated. Lack of reports from ground observers shortly after 5 p.m. is not surprising in that locale where people are much too busy fighting surface traffic to spend time gazing at the sky. Furthermore, if the UFO was a meteor-fireball, its trajectory would have been far to the east of Long Island, over water.

Durant/Berliner seemingly prefer to believe that the UFO was an ET craft whose pilot either was careless and almost collided with Swissair's giant 747, or was intentionally trying to frighten its crew. SUN prefers to believe the UFO was a meteor-fireball which invariably seems to be very much closer than it really is.

<u>Credulous French Report Suggests Need For Defense Against UFOs</u>

A 90-page French report titled "UFOs and Defense: What Must We Be Prepared For?" submitted to France's President Jacques Chirac and Prime Minister Lionel Jospin and made public in mid-July, is characterized as "of great historical importance" by the Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS) in the summer issue of its International UFO Reporter (IUR). The most detailed summary in English of the report's content, written by French UFOlogist Gildas Bourdais, can be found on the CUFOS website (www.cufos.org) while a less detailed account by Bourdais was published in the Sept. issue of the MUFON UFO Journal. (The Fund for UFO Research (FUFOR) plans to publish an English translation of the full report.)

The report was issued by COMETA--The Committee for In-depth Studies. Based on Bourdais' summary, SUN suggests that the group should more accurately be named The Committee for Shallow, Superficial Studies. The COMETA report is based on a several-year study by a group of former "auditors" of the Institute of Advanced Studies for National Defense (IHEDN) and by "qualified experts from various fields," according to Bourdais. More than 20 years ago, the same Association of Auditors of IHEDN recommended that France create a national UFO-investigation agency, leading to the formation of GEPAN in 1977, which reports to France's highly respected space agency: CNES. In 1988, GEPAN was renamed SEPRA and its scope was expanded to include reentering space debris and meteor-fireball reports. During the 21-years of GEPAN/SEPRA's operation, it has received about 3,000 UFO reports, has investigated about 100 of these, and has found prosaic explanations for all but a few cases. GEPAN/SEPRA's investigation of its most famous "unexplained" case (Trans-en-Provence) has been sharply criticized by some French UFO researchers [SUN #46/July 1997].

COMETA's report ignores the fact that more than 20 years after GEPAN/SEPRA was created per its earlier recommendation, GEPAN/SEPRA has failed to produce any scientifically credible evidence that any UFOs are ET craft.

Skeptics UFO Newsletter -6- Nov. 1999

COMETA FINDS NO PLAUSIBLE EXPLANATION OTHER THAN EXTRATERRESTRIAL

COMETA's report (seemingly) rejects possible prosaic explanations for UFO incidents that it finds most impressive. For example, the 1956 incident at Britain's Lakenheath air base, and the 1957 incident in the U.S. involving an RB-47. (My book "UFOs Explained" offers prosalc explanations for both.) Another case which impressed COMETA is the 1976 incident near Tehran. (My book "UFOs: The Public Decelved" offered a prosaic explanation for the incident.) COMETA also finds the Trans-en-Provence case impressive, ignoring critics who cite evidence that it is a hoax. COMETA claims that hoaxes are rare and "easily detected."

COMETA concludes that the physical reality of UFOs and their being under the control of intelligent creatures is "quasi-certain." This prompts COMETA to make a number of recommendations, including studying measures which would be needed if ETs should attack, and seeking to penetrate what it believes to be a U.S. Government UFO-coverup via diplomatic channels.

A curious aspect of the credulous COMETA report is that its preface was written by Bernard Norlain, a retired four-star general of the French Air Force, and the report's preamble was written by Andre Lebeau, former head of CNES. The IHEDN auditors, who "collectively" authored the report, are headed by Dennis Letty, a retired two-star general in the French Air Force.

Commercial "Spy Satellite" Offers Great UFO Photo Opportunity

IF there are as many ET craft in our skies as claimed by numerous UFO reports, authentic daylight photos of them should soon be available to the public--thanks to the launch on Sept. 24 of Ikonos, the first commercial photo-reconnaissance satellite capable of taking pictures with a resolution of <u>3 feet</u>. The Central Intelligence Agency has operated such "spy satellites" for nearly 40 years, initially to determine the number and location of the USSR's ballistic missiles as well as to detect new military aircraft and assess their numbers. But until recently, all of the CIA's satellite imagery was highly classified and not available to the public.

The Ikonos satellite was funded by Space Imaging Inc. as a commercial venture headed by Lockheed Martin--which built most of the CIA's photo satellites--and Raytheon. One of its major customers will be the National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA), to supplement photos obtained from CIA's currently higher resolution "spy satellites." NIMA reportedly plans to spend \$580-million over the next six years for Ikonos photos. The satellite will orbit the earth 14 times a day, which will enable it to photograph the same area every three days. Customers can pre-arrange for Ikonos to take a photo of any desired geographic area.

Ikonos offers a golden opportunity for pro-UFOlogists to obtain incontrovertible proof of alien craft in our skies. For example, multi-millionaire Joe Firmage [SUN #58/July 1999] could offer to contribute \$100,000 to purchase and analyze Ikonos photos taken over Gulf Breeze, Fla., and other areas that report frequent UFO visitations. Another potential sponsor is wealthy Las Vegas businessman Robert T. Bigelow, who paid \$200,000 to buy a ranch in Utah (whose previous owner reported frequent UFO visits) in the hope of obtaining UFO photos. (Bigelow was featured in a front-page article in the Aug. 23 edition of The Wall Street Journal which reported that he plans to spend up to \$500-million to construct a hotel in outer space.)

SUN Predicts: If Firmage, Bigelow and/or others fund the purchase and analysis of many Ikonos photos, they will spot many conventional aircraft but NO alien craft. Pro-UFOlogists will explain that the ETs scheduled their visits when Ikonos was not overhead or that the UFOs made themselves invisible, a capability claimed by Budd Hopkins (SUN #59/Sept. 1999). Another possible explanation: the photos were "retouched" to eliminate any ET craft.

Gersten Commercializes CAUS Via The Internet

In the less than two years since UFO-Lawyer Peter A. Gersten took over as executive director of Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS), which claims to be a not-for-profit organization, it now offers a remarkable variety of services and products from its Website. The most recent is the CAUS Legal Assistance Program, which offers Gersten's attorney services under two available options. Option A: A \$99 initial retainer fee plus \$49/month after the first month, under which Gersten will provide up to four hours per month of consultation. Option B: A \$299 initial retainer plus \$69/month after the first month for unlimited consultation. Gersten says that "all proceeds go to support CAUS." (SUN wonders about the "legality" of such services to persons who live in states where Gersten is not licensed to practice.)

CAUS also is seeking advertisers for its new Website to "further expand its potential to end the secrecy surrounding UFOs and related phenomenon (sic)." CAUS collects a small commission on sale of advertiser products when ordered from its Website. One current advertiser is promoting Viagra, the male potency drug.

CAUS also is offering a 11-day trip to Peru, priced at \$2,450, to visit ancient Mayan landmarks. The tour--the first of many planned for the coming year--will be led by Gersten and Jerry Wills and his wife Kathryn. According to CAUS's Website promotion, Wills is a 10-year student of Shamanish and his expertise includes "healing, using light, sound and touch" and "transdimensional travel." Wills is quoted as saying that "almost every time I have come here [to Peru] with a group, we have all seen unexplainable lights floating near the mountains and overhead." Gersten, after moving to Arizona from his long-time home in New York--prior to taking over CAUS--operated a travel agency.

YOU CAN ALSO BUY A "PAST-LIFE PROFILE" WITH YOUR HOROSCOPE

A variety of products which display the CAUS logo can also be purchased on its Website. These include a wall clock for \$24.95, T-shirts for \$20, coffee mug for \$15 and bumper sticker for \$3. One of the more unusual products offered for sale by CAUS, because of Gersten's interest in astrology, is an "Edgar Cayce Past-Life Profile." As described by Gersten, "this multi-page profile report compares your birth date with those who had life readings from Edgar Cayce, then produces a horoscope and past-life report based on these correlations.....You will receive your birth horoscope, along with aspects, and a past-life profile outlining several past incarnations you may have had." (Emphasis added.) The promotion claims that "every dollar goes to supporting CAUS...its principles and its projects. Don't wait--supplies are limited!"

If CAUS enjoys the benefits of being recognized as a "not-for-profit" organization so that contributions to CAUS are tax deductible, it is required to file an annual statement with the Internal Revenue Service which details its income and expenses, including payments made to officials such as Gersten. In view of its fast-expanding commercial activities, <u>SUN</u> believes that the CAUS Website should provide access to its annual IRS financial report. After all, CAUS's stated philosophy begins: "WHERE THERE IS SECRECY, THERE IS NO TRUTH..."

Short Shrift

* Larry Bryant asked to resign from MUFON Board: MUFON director Walt Andrus recently called "controversial UFO activist" Larry W. Bryant to suggest he resign from MUFON's Board of Directors and his post of Director of Governmental Affairs to spare the Board from having to vote to oust him. Bryant recently threatened legal action against the governor of Virginia unless he acted to protect its citizens against "UFO abductions" and UFO invasion of privacy. Bryant has a long history of colorful actions which attract media coverage.

- Dr. Mack to debut his new UFO-abduction book in New York City: Harvard psychiatrist Dr. John E. Mack is scheduled to discuss highlights of his new book, (modestly) titled "Passport to the Cosmos: Human Transformation and Alien Encounters," at a Nov. 16 conference in New York City. Speakers will include Roberta Colasanti, clinical director of Program for Extraordinary Experience Research (PEER), which Mack created in 1993, plus several "experiencers," i.e., "abductees." Ironically, Budd Hopkins, who first interested Mack in UFO abductions and who lives in New York City, is not an invited speaker. Relations between the two have become strained because Hopkins and his close associate David Jacobs view UFO abductions as malevolent ET actions. Mack views the longer-term effects as benevolent because they (reportedly) "expand the consciousness" of experiencers and make them more aware of ecological and geopolitical problems. Unconfirmed rumor is that multi-millionaire Joe Firmage has agreed to contribute \$250,000 to PEER for its UFO-abduction research.
- Bay Area UFO Expo attracts large audience: While the roster of famous UFOlogists, such as Stanton Friedman, Peter Gersten, Dr. Steven Greer and Richard Hoagland (who popularized the "Face on Mars") attracted more than a thousand attendees to the Bay Area UFO Expo Sept. 4-5, it was the relative unknowns who achieved fame in news media articles about the conference. For example, Dan Sherman claimed that while he was in the USAF he was recruited into a covert program whose members were trained to receive telepathic messages from ETs. Sherman claims that before he was born his pregnant mother was abducted by ETs without her knowledge, to endow him with their telepathic abilities. Sherman's tale is told in his recent book, "Above Black." Robert Peralta, who served as "emcee" for the conference, claims that he has been abducted by UFOs frequently for the last 23 years. He claims that the ETs "share information with me in a telepathic language that is like pictures." Peralta also has authored a book, titled "The Divine Blueprint," which deals with UFO abductions, angelic visitations and other paranormal matters--according to an article in the Modesto (Calif.) Bee.
- Hardcover edition of Firmage's book "The Truth" delayed: Publication date for a 500+ page hardcover edition of Joe Firmage's book "The Truth," a draft of which appeared last summer on the Internet, has been delayed several months until next March, according to a spokesperson for Granite Publishing. She explained the delay was because "Firmage is adding quite a bit of new information that we felt was worth waiting for." (SUN Wonders if Firmage has decided to soften his prior endorsement of the "new MJ-12 papers" from Tim Cooper.) Granite Publishing offers many exotic books on UFOs. One is titled "The Psychic Sasquatch and their UFO Connection." Another, titled "Zeta Talk," is described as follows: "Nancy Lieder [the author] has for many years directly communicated with the benevolent ETs from Zeta Reticulum.... You can now learn fascinating information on... the soul, other worlds, reincarnation,... the 12th Planet, the Hybrid Program and the Hybrid Beings... MJ-12... poleshift and more."
- * Words of Wisdom from British UFOlogist: Gloria Dixon, director of investigations for the British UFO Research Assoc. (BUFORA) and recently named editor of a new UFO magazine "Strange Daze," offered the following philosophical commentary in a recent newspaper interview: "Aliens and UFOs have become part of today's new belief system and religion continues to wane...As we turn away from God, people are looking to the skies to find something else to believe in, to give some sort of spiritual meaning to their lives. The aliens of today are the angels and demons of yesteryear." SUN would add: Regretably, UFOlogy also attracts those who seek fame and/or fortune by spinning tale tales.

NOTE: Opinions expressed in <u>SUN</u> are those of its editor--unless otherwise noted--and do NOT necessarily represent the views of any organization with which he is affiliated. We deeply thank <u>Dr. Gary Posner</u> for his help in proofreading.

SKEPTICS UFO NEWSLETTER (SUN) IS PUBLISHED BIMONTHLY. SUBSCRIPTION RATE (SIX ISSUES) IS \$15/YEAR FOR U.S./CANADA. OVERSEAS RATE (AIRMAIL) IS \$20/YEAR. BACK ISSUES ARE AVAILABLE FOR \$1 EACH. (Please make check/money order payable to PHILIP J. KLASS.)